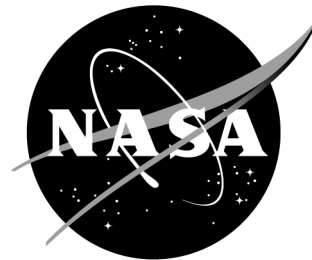


# NewsRelease

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

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## **ASTRONAUT VISIT UNDERSCORES NASA COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS, EDUCATION**

Astronaut Stephanie D. Wilson is Harvard educated, received a master's degree from the University of Texas, worked as an engineer for the former Martin Marietta Astronautics Group and, after being selected for the astronaut corps in 1996, is assigned to the crew of STS-120. She considers being a role model to America's students and especially to today's young women a critical part of her job as a female astronaut.

Wilson will visit Eaton Middle School, 2108 Cunningham Drive, Hampton, at 10 a.m. Thursday, October 9, to address the student body and present awards. Prior to her auditorium presentation, she will meet with eight female students who have formed a special bond with NASA's Langley Research Center. They have appeared in a promotional video currently being used to encourage young women to pursue careers in math, science and technology.

Reporters who are interested in meeting Astronaut Wise and the Eaton Middle School girls who are assisting NASA in recruiting the next generation of explorers, should call Marny Skora or Ann Stephens to make arrangements to be admitted to the school.

Wilson was selected by NASA for the Astronaut Corps in April 1996 and reported to the Johnson Space Center in August. She completed two years of training and evaluation, and is qualified as a mission specialist. She was first assigned technical duties in the Astronaut Office Space Station Operations Branch. More recently, she served in the Astronaut Office CAPCOM Branch, working in Mission Control as prime communicator with on-orbit crews.

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